

ATTACHMENT 1

Statement of Intent

The purpose of this request is to amend Fresta Valley Christian School's special exception to allow for the construction of an addition to the school building.

Fresta Valley is a non-residency kindergarten, primary and secondary school that has been educating children in Fauquier County for 30 years. Presently, approximately 300 students attend Fresta Valley. The school is located seven miles west of Warrenton on Wilson Road (Virginia State Route 738). School is in normal session from 8:15 a.m. until 3:00 p.m., September to June. The school hosts regular theater and orchestral performances by students, which are open to the community at large.

Fresta Valley's campus is comprised of approximately 25 acres of rolling and partially wooded land. The campus provides ample room for outdoor school activities and recreation. The buildings and athletic fields are screened by woods and, therefore, are not visible from the roadway. The school's physical structure is comprised of a single story school building and the school administrator's house. The proposed addition would be connected to the school building on its northern end.

The school building, which was last expanded 20 years ago, has become crowded with space at a premium. Currently, creative scheduling is employed to ensure adequate space for students, faculty and staff to carry out the essentials needed to teach 300 students. The proposed addition has been designed to optimize the new space, while allowing the existing space to be used more efficiently and logically. This way two incongruent uses, for instance a band class and napping first graders, are separated by a sufficient distance.

The addition would allow for the construction of a new multipurpose room and the addition of additional storage areas, new bathrooms, a new library, and three to four new rooms to be used for classrooms or offices. Fresta Valley anticipates that the addition would provide adequate facilities for approximately 100 students. Currently, half of the students attending Fresta Valley are transported by school bus. The remainder of the children are transported by parents. The addition would allow for the expansion and reorganization of the current parking and driveway area near the school. The school would still be accessed by the existing driveway. Fresta Valley does not believe there will be a negative impact on Wilson Road due to the addition or its construction.

Efforts will be made to save as much of the evergreen screening that exists at the school as possible. Additional evergreen screening will be planted around the school addition, once complete, to replace that lost due to construction. This screening will preserve the rural character of the area and protect the views of surrounding properties. Although the new building will be 35' tall, the proposed roof of the addition will be within a few feet of the elevation of the top of the roof on the existing building. Most of the deciduous trees along the gently curving driveway will be preserved. The addition will be approximately 250 feet from the road and approximately 220 feet from the nearest property line.

Fresta Valley believes this addition will further its mission of providing quality education to children, and allow it to better serve the community.

